



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Confirmation No.: 1215

Toshimitsu TAMAGAWA Art Unit: 2612

Application No.: 09/971,054 Examiner: Jerabek, Kelly L.

Filed: October 5, 2001 Attorney Dkt. No.: 103213-00041

For: IMAGE READING DEVICE WITH REDUCED VARIATIONS AMONG SIGNAL LEVELS (As Amended)

**AMENDMENT WITH FILING OF A REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

ATTN: Mail Stop RCE
Director for the U.S. PTO
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 29, 2006

Sir:

Coupled with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination and Petition for Extension of Time, Applicant requests that, prior to initial examination, the above-identified application be amended as shown below. This paper is in reply to the outstanding Final Office Action dated December 1, 2005, the due date for which has been extended one month from March 1, 2006 to April 1, 2006 with the attached Petition for Extension of Time.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks/arguments begin on page 6.